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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80902

Kazuyuki USUKI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/826,474

Group Art Unit: 1773

Confirmation No.: 1519

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: April 19, 2004

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM INCLUDING A MAGNETIC LAYER
CONTAINING A NONMAGNETIC OXIDE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. JP-A 2001-126246 published May 11, 2001, to Fuji.
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,666,788 issued May 19, 1987, to Kadokura et al.
3. JP-A 10-88333 published April 7, 1998, to Mitsui Mining and Smelting.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than the U.S. patent, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

USUKI et al.
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/826,474
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

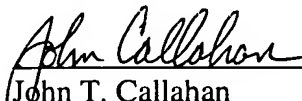
on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents and indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

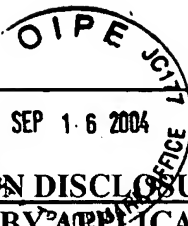
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Date: September 16, 2004



Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO SEP 1 6 2004

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/826,474 |
| Confirmation Number | 1519 |
| Filing Date | April 19, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | Kazuyuki USUKI |
| Art Unit | 1773 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q80902 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | | US 4,666,788 | | 05-19-1987 | Kadokura et al. |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 2001-126246 | A | 05-11-2001 | Fuji | |
| | | JP | 10-88333 | A | 04-07-1998 | Mitsui Mining and Smelting | |
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.